FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1987

Gulf Affairs

Iran on U.S., Soviets — Commenting on Richard Murphy's Gulf tour in an editorial cited by Tehran radio, *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* said the U.S. assistant secretary of state is entrusted with assuring the regional shaykhs that the United States is still able to protect them and that there has been no change in U.S. policies. The Tehran paper contended that the United States is trying to compensate for its "failures" by bringing the USSR into the Gulf, adding that the Russians are falling into a "trap" set for them by the Americans. As for the 6 May attack on a Soviet freighter, the radio cited *Ettela'at*'s view that Western reports blaming Iran for the incident were part of a "plot" to undermine Soviet-Iranian relations. It would not be far-fetched to see another Soviet vessel being attacked by the Americans or by a state in the southern part of the Gulf in order to further worsen Soviet-Iranian relations by holding Iran responsible, the paper asserted. *Ettela'at* emphasized the particular importance which Iran attaches to maintaining good relations with the USSR, but it criticized the latter's current "hostile" policy and urged the Soviets to show "prudence" in their dealings with Iran.

Soviet Criticism of Iran — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy confirmed that the USSR holds Iran responsible for the attack on a Soviet freighter and noted that his country has sent Iran a memorandum on the incident, KUNA disclosed in a report from Moscow. The UN Security Council should adopt a firm resolution calling for an end to the Iran-Iraq war, Petrovskiy said, and "punitive measures" should be taken against any of the warring parties which rejects the resolution.

Kuwait Explosion — KUNA cited an Interior Ministry announcement that investigations are underway to catch those responsible for an 11 May bomb explosion that killed the janitor of a Kuwait travel agency.

Israel

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told Likud MK's 12 May that he rejects the notion of an international conference in a final and resolute manner, stressing that he will not agree to any bargaining or compromise on the issue, Jerusalem radio reported. He contended that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' proposal lacks real substance and indicates a wish to get rid of all of Israel's security assets. Peres is even willing to give up the Golan Heights and East Jerusalem in order to attain exclusive power in Israel, Shamir claimed.

A *Hadashot* report on the 11 May Inner Cabinet session disclosed that Shamir and the Likud ministers rejected the Alignment's proposal to invite Secretary of State George Shultz on a shuttle trip to the area.

Egypt

MENA reported that two persons have been arrested on suspicion of shooting former Interior Minister Major General Hasan Abu Basha. An Interior Ministry source cited by the agency had earlier implicated the Al-Jihad organization in the 5 May attack on Abu Basha.

PLO-Syria

PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir announced that neither he nor a delegation from the PLO Executive Committee will visit Syria soon, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported. The radio cited a press statement by Al-Wazir in which he noted that Syria has not yet responded to the PLO's stance at the Algiers PNC and acknowledged that current efforts to arrange a PLO official visit to Damascus have thus far proved fruitless. In a related development, the radio cited PFLP leader George Habash's view that Palestinian unity will be incomplete without a reconciliation between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Syria is a natural and irreplaceable ally for the Palestinians, Habash said, and a permanent and just peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without an end to the conflict between the PLO and Syria.

Libya-Chad

JANA reported that Libyan forces have "handed over" their positions in the Tibesti region to the forces of former GUNT leader Goukouni Oueddei "in the framework of the return of the natural alliance" between the Libyan and Chadian revolutions.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Afghan Soldiers Flee to Pakistan After Mutiny

BK120432 Hong Kong AFP in English 0410 GMT 12 May 87

[Excerpt] Islamabad, May 12 (AFP) — More than 60 Afghan soldiers fled to Pakistan Monday after mudering their officers in a barracks mutiny near Kabul, it was reported here. Of the mutineers, 63 made it across the border and surrendered to the local authorities at Miranshah. But at least six Afghan soldiers were killed while crossing a minefield near the border, the reports said.

Correspondents in the border area, quoting the defecting Afghans, said an entire unit in a base located outside Kabul had "mutinied" recently, shooting dead all the officers before deserting. Afghan resistance sources said Afghan and Soviet forces were currently engaged in anti-guerrilla operations in Paktia Province opposite Miranshah. [Passage omitted]

Mujahidin Cite Jet Downing, Ground Battles

LD111447 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Pashto 1130 GMT 11 May 87

[Summary] According to a report by our correspondent from Paktia Province, on 22 April, a Russian jet aircraft and two helicopters were downed near Khowst as a result of Mujahidin anti-aircraft machinegun fire. Also, at 1300 on 30 April a Russian (?MI)-25 helicopter was downed. The report adds that on 27 April, the Mujahidin attacked the Russian residence in Khowst, inflicting heavy damages on the enemy (?building). On 28 April, as a result of an attack on enemy forces in [word indistinct], 17 Russian servants were killed or wounded.

During 13-19 April in Logar province, Mujahidin fire damaged an enemy fighter aircraft. Another report from Logar states that on 16 April, the Mujahidin captured a Russian adviser alive during a heavy attack on enemy forces in this province.

According to a report from Wardag and Maydan, on 18 April 10 Russian servants were killed and several wounded during a clash with the Mujahidin. Enemy battle equipment was heavily damaged during this clash.

Our correspondent reports from Kandahar Province, that on 30 April, during an attack on Russian regiment [number indistinct], an enemy transport vehicle was destroyed, four Russian soldiers were killed, and several wounded.

'Youth' From Kabul Province Join Armed Forces

LD120815 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Kabul, May 11, BAKHTAR — Five thousand Afghan youth have voluntarily joined to the ranks of the Armed Forces of the DRA, in Kabul and its suburbs during the past twenty days.

Since the beginning of the new Afghan year (started 21 March), over 7,500 youths of Kabul province have registered themselves in the 11 precincts and military commissariats of Kabul and its suburbs to defend peace and security in the country.

Series [as received] of the voluntarily joining of the youths in the detachments and contingents of the Armed Forces of the DRA are in full swing.

French Foreign Minister's 'Interference' Protested

LD111748 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Quoting a source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, BAKHTAR reports that the charge d'affaires of the Republic of France was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at 1130. [time as heard] The following protest note was handed to him by the head of the relevant office of the ministry:

On the basis of reports by the international mass media, Jean-Bernard Raimond, French minister of foreign affairs, during his 7-8 May official visit to Pakistan, met with Pakistani authorities and leaders of anti-Afghan opposition groups. During talks on the situation in Afghanistan, he expressed the support of the Republic of France for anti-Afghan opposition groups, and promised to increase France's assistance to them. He signed an agreement on this with the Pakistani authorities. The French foreign affairs minister visited the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and resorted to irresponsible and provocative assertions against the DRA. He did this at a time when the national reconciliation policy for ending war and bloodshed in the country, and for ensuring peace in the region and in Afghanistan has been warmly supported here and throughout the region and world by peace-loving people, including the peace-loving people of Pakistan and France.

The French minister visited a country which has been transformed into a gunpowder and modern weapons dump. Pakistan has endangered the peace and security of the region by several border violations against the DRA, and by exerting military pressure on our country and the Republic of India.

The Republic of France is [words indistinct] of those people who oppose peace and tranquillity in our country and region. Like other imperialist and reactionary countries, it is interested, through a so-called screen of democracy, in a continuation of war and bloodshed in the DRA, and in maintaining a conflict situation. The provocative statements by the French foreign affairs minister, which follow previous French measures and assertions against the DRA, clearly shows who is working for peace and tranquillity for the people, and who is fanning war, bloodshed and fratricide. The DRA believes that resorting to such measures and interference cannot help the defeated spirit of the extremists in the face of the national reconciliation policy. We strongly protest the interference and assertions of the French foreign affairs minister, which are contrary to all accepted international norms. We demand that the French Government end such statements and actions, which both countries' peaceloving peoples will condemn. These policies will have a negative effect on our current bilateral relations.

Commentary Focuses on Water Sharing With India

BK101426 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 10 May 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is after long 2 years that the ministerial-level meeting of Bangladesh-India Joint Rivers Commission — JRC — is now taking place in New Delhi. This has lent a particular significance to the current ministerial-level deliberations of the JRC in the Indian capital for working out a permanent and lasting solution to the issue of common river waters sharing between India and Bangladesh. The imperatives for such a solution have been heightened by the wish for going ahead with long-term development projects in the water resources sector, including augmentation of the water flows.

On its part, Bangladesh has all through maintained that a permanent water sharing accord between herself and India is necessary not only to further promote and consolidate good-neighborliness but also to harness the common water resources to the best mutual interest. Certainly, the internationally recognized principles for sharing of common river waters between the lower and the upper riparian countries provide a workable basis for a viable solution in this context. It is high time for both India and Bangladesh for moving away from short-term approaches to the water problem. This is precisely the reason that irrigation, water resources, and flood control minister, Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud, has strongly felt that the two countries should be serious about long-term solutions to the vexed problems of augmentation and sharing of the Ganges and other common waters. Mr Mahmud is leading the Bangladesh delegation to the ministerial-level [meeting] of the JRC now in progress in New Delhi. He told the newsmen at Zia International Airport before leaving for the Indian capital that Bangladesh could not go ahead effectively with its plans for surface water development and irrigation structure without an agreement on permanent sharing of waters with the upper riparian countries. Obviously, the international financing for related projects will not be forthcoming in the absence of such an accord. Against this backdrop, we would expect that there would be necessary cooperative spirit on the two sides to help tackle the water sharing problem on a permanent basis.

The current ministerial-level meeting of JRC in New Delhi would also be reviewing the activities of Bangladesh-India joint committee of experts and the possibilities of extending its tenure. It is to be noted that the current tenure of the JRC expires on 21 May. The development projects in our irrigation and water resources sector have assumed a greater priority. Territorially Bangladesh is a lower riparian country. The major rivers, including the Padma, the Yamuna, and Meghan, and all other rivers, have their origin outside Bangladesh. All these rivers have interspersed the area in such a way as gives Bangladesh the look of a landscape painted in water color. The soil is alluvial and is enriched with silts [word indistinct] carried by the mighty rivers. One would expect that the alluvial soils with the large number of water would remain wet rather than dry. But this is however not the case in reality. The withdrawal of water by the upper riparian countries has caused an increasing aridity and even desertification, particularly in the northern parts of Bangladesh. The problems of aridity, desertification, and ecological imbalances in the country, particularly during the lean months of the international rivers, have thus heightened the need for cooperation and understanding with the upper riparian countries in particular. One would earnestly expect that the concerned countries would appreciate now such moves for cooperation and understanding in more right earnest.

Gandhi: Punjab Ministers Blocking Police Work

BK111608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] The prime minister has asked the Punjab government to take strict action against its ministers found harboring terrorists. Addressing the general body meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said because of the interference of ministers, the police in the state are in a very difficult position. Mr Gandhi said he is very much worried about what is happening in Punjab. The killings have increased over the last 1 month, which is the most disturbing factor.

The All India Congress Committee-I general secretary, Mr Nawal Kishore Sharma, who briefed newsmen, said the prime minister referred to a newspaper report on the Fairfax issue and said all the linkages are slowly coming out. He assured members that the government will leave no stone unturned and ensured that action will be taken agaisnt those found guilty, however high or low they may be. Action will neither by delayed nor slowed down. Mr Gandhi said he does not think politics should be run with money power. The prime minister said party workers and people should be involved in the implementation of the 20-point program. He indicated that something new is being done for the scheduled castes and tribes, which will meet their aspirations.

Special Punjab Assembly Session

BK111614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] A special session of the Punjab assembly has been summoned on the 27th of this month. This was decided at an emergency meeting of the state cabinet in Chandigarh this evening. It stated that the special session is being convened to take the people into confidence about steps taken to tackle the present situation.

In a resolution, the cabinet said the fight against terrorists and antinational elements has received major successes and has entered a decisive stage. A large number of hard-core terrorists have either been arrested or killed. While expressing satisfaction over communal harmony, the cabinet expressed concern over the recent recovery of an arsenal consisting of machineguns and medium machineguns having foreign markings. It requested the central government to take appropriate measures in this direction.

Presidential Rule Imposed

BK120208 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Presidential rule has been imposed in Punjab. The central cabinet made this decision after reviewing the governor's report sent to the president last night. The president's directive on imposing presidential rule has been issued under Article 356 of the Constitution. The president felt that according to the system of the Indian Constitution, the state government cannot be allowedto function further due to the situation in the state. However, the Punjab legislative assembly has not been dissolved.

An official spokesman announced late last night that presidential rule has been imposed after the deterioration of law and order in the state. It was felt that since last month extremists and terrorists had established their own authority which dominated over the state jurisdiction. The terrorist activities frightened the citizens, who began to leave the state.

The spokesman said the center was very much concerned with the interference of some cabinet ministers in police operations. Thisdiminished police morale, and the people's confidence in the administration was dwindling. The center concluded that the state government was inefficient in controlling the law and order situation and stopping the extremist forces and terrorist activities.

Security Strengthened in Punjab

BK120335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Punjab has been placed under president's rule. The state assembly will remain in suspended animation. A proclamation to this effect was issued late last night after the president received a report from the Punjab governor. The report was earlier considered by the union cabinet which recommended imposition of president's rule in the state. The president felt that a situation had arisen in which the state administration could not be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

An official spokesman said that the taking over of the state administration by the president follows the deterioration in the law and order situation in Punjab. It was felt that a parellel authority by fundamentalists and terrorists had started functioning in the state since April. Citizens have been stricken with fear by the activities of the terrorists and there has been migration of people from the state. Lawlessness, looting, bank robberies, burning of shops, and brutal murder of innocent persons have increased making many of the fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution illusory. The spokesman said the center was distressed to find some of the ministers in the state cabinet interfering with the functioning of the police. This had lowered the morale of the police and undermined the public confidence in the administration. The government's assessment was that the state government was incapable of maintaining law and order and combating fundamentalist forces and terrorist activities.

Security measures have been strengthened in Punjab and its adjoining areas following imposition of president's rule.

It may be recalled that the home minister was in constant touch with Mr Barnala for the last few days. In a number of letters he brought to the notice of Mr Barnala the fast deteriorating law and order situation in the state.

The president of the Akali Dal Master Tara Singh group, Jathedar Rachpal Singh, has welcomed imposition of president's rule. He said it will pave the way for solving the state's problems. The Punjab unit of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] has welcomed the center's decision. However, the BJP president, Mr L.K. Advani, said the action is politically motivated.

The West Bengal left front chairman, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, has criticized the dismissal of the Barnala government.

Opposition Protests Decision

BK120650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] In the Lok Sabha today almost the entire opposition staged a walk out protesting against the imposition of president's rule in Punjab by the government without consulting them. Copies of the proclamation by the president and the governor's report recommending president's rule in Punjab were laid on the table of the House by the home minister, Mr Buta Singh. As soon as the House met this morning the entire opposition was on its seat protesting that they were not consulted on a national issue like Punjab before this step was taken. They also demanded a discussion on Punjab. The speaker, Mr Balram Jakhar, assured them that they can discuss the president's proclation and the governor's report after it is laid on the table of the House by the home minister.

In the Rajya Sabha, the copies of the proclamation and the governor's report recommending president's rule in the state were laid on the table of the House by the minister of state for home, Mr P. Chidambaram. Immediately after the House assembled several opposition members were on their seats to protest against the manner in which the proclamation had been issued. They charge the government of breach of propriety. They expressed the view that the opposition should have been consulted on a vital issue like Punjab. Replying to the opposition charge, Mr Chidambaram asserted that the government had faithfully followed the constitutional provisions.

Governor's Report Cites 'Chaos'

BK120906 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] In his report, the [Punjab] governor pointed out that there is total chaos and anarchy in Punjab. The writ of the Barnala government had ceased running in large areas of the state, particularly in almost all rural areas. The report says that the ruling party in Punjab and its government have no political will to combat either the fundamentalist movement or the growing and unabated terrorism and extremism. It says: In Punjab, everywhere, in every sphere, there is threat, intimidation and fear, the present government stands helpless, quite incapable of doing anything to bring back even a semblance of order anywhere. The report makes it clear that all the fight that has been put up in Punjab is in fact by a certain section of the police under the leadership of their director general and not because of any leadership, assistance or encouragement from the state government. It says killings in the state have increased and these were the highest-ever last month. The governor's report says what made matters worse was the deep involvement of some of the ministers in the Barnala government and their relations with the terrorists.

The Director general of Punjab Police, Mr Julius Ribeiro, has been granted 1 year of extension of service. This was announced by the Punjab governor, Mr Siddarth Shanker Ray, at a press conference in Chandigarh today. He said he is sending a message about this to the center. Mr Ray, who has taken over the state administration following president's rule in Punjab, said that every effort must be directed toward providing security to life and property and ensure that everybody could carry his avocations without fear. The district police chiefs have been asked to ensure that no innocent person is harassed in any way while dealing with terrorism and violence. A cell is being set up under an inspector general of police to look into the complaints of harassment of innocent people. Mr Ray also said that he will soon be visiting Delhi for discussions with central leaders.

Parliament Minister Announces Session Extension

BK111321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] The current session of the Lok Sabha has been extended by 1 more day till tomorrow. This was announced by the minister of state for parliamentary affairs, Mrs Shiela Dikshit.

Curfew Imposed in Gujarat Town After Violence

BK120350 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation in Palanpur town in Banaskantha District after violent incidents last night is now under control. According to the Palanpur police, no untoward incident has been reported after the imposition of indefinite curfew from 2000. Strict police patrolling is continuing in the entire curfew-bound town. As reported earlier, some violent incidents took place yesterday during a bundh [strike] call. One person was killed in a mob violence. Police fired two rounds to disperse the violent crowd. No one was injured in the firing.

The chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhury, has announced an action plan to curb communal disturbances. Talking to newsmen in Gandhinagar yesterday, Mr Chaudhury said the entire police set up will be reconstituted to make it more effective. The police force will be modernized and equipped with more facilities. The chief minister said more intensive efforts will be made to identify the root cause of the communal flareup and the antisocial elements will be weeded out from areas prone to disturbances. Punitive tax will be imposed in places where disturbances occur. Efforts will also be made to build a congenial atmosphere for lasting peace and communal harmony.

Politicians Express 'Concern' Over Sri Lanka

BK111632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] In the Lok Sabha today, members expressed grave concern over the deteriorating situation in Sri Lanka and urged the government to take firm action to restore peace on the island. Taking part in a special discussion, memebrs said that the Jayewardene government is using the Army and the Air Force against innocent civilians, something unheard of in any civilized society. Urging the government to review its policy, they said

India should not close its options in regard to Sri Lanka. Members strongly expressed themselves against any military solution to the ethnic problem and said it can be solved only through peaceful political negotiations. Initiating the discussion, Mr Braja Mohan Mohanty, Congress-I, said Sri Lanka has become a playground of different powers. He alleged that South African weapons are being used against the Tamils. Some members suggested mobilization of world opinion agianst the violation of human rights in Sri Lanka. The discussion remained inconclusive.

Bangladesh Irrigation Minister Meets Tiwari
BK111405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] The Bangladesh minister for irrigation, water development and flood control, Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud, met the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi today. Mr Mahmud is in New Delhi to attend the ministerial-level review meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Commission of Experts on augmentation and sharing of the river water resources.

During the 30-minute meeting, the Bangladesh minister apprised Mr Tiwari of the talks about the extension of ad hoc Tista [River] water sharing arrangements and the decision to extend the Joint Commission of Experts for 6 months.

Mr Tiwari explained the importance of concluding a long-term agreement on inland water transportation at an early date.

Mr Tiwari also mentioned the importance of early repatriation of Chakma refugees to their homes in Bangladesh.

SRI LANKA

Tamil Radio Criticizes Jaffna Hospital Closure

BK110741 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 8 May 87

[Text] The Madras Medical Association has expressed shock over the Sri Lankan Government order to close down Jaffna general hospital. A statement issued by the Medical Association in Madras yesterday says it is the fundamental duty of every government to take care of the welfare of the people and to protect them and that doctors from all over the world have condemned the Sri Lankan Government for this step. This association has asked the Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, to use his good offices and do what is necessary to make the Sri Lankan Government change its decision.

The former Mannar coalition MP [as heard], (S. Sungaivasan), has appealed to National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali to reconsider the decision to temporarily close down Jaffna general hospital. Reports from there [Colombo] say that he met the minister and apprised him of the suffering the people may face owing to the closure of the hospital.

Meanwhile, a medical delegation led by Dr Nachinarkiniar, which arrived in Colombo from Jaffna, has met the authorities of the ministry of teaching hospitals [as heard] and has been holding talks with them on the order issued to close down the hospital. Reports from there [Colombo] say that this delegation met the Sri Lankan national security minister at noon today.

Fire-Free Zone Offer Rejected

BK120734 Hong Kong AFP in English 0702 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Colmobo, May 12 (AFP) — The main Tamil separatist group has rejected a government offer to set up a fire-free zone around Jaffna hospital, where nine people died in a mortar attack last month, informed sources said here Tuesday.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) turned down the offer in talks in the northern capital Monday with hospital and city officials, saying certain conditions had not been met, the sources said

The sources were unable to say what these conditions were. The Jaffna officials have been given until Thursday to work out a deal with the LTTE.

The government has accused the group of having set up mortar positions close to the hospital to draw retaliatory fire, and thus blame any damage to the hospital or killing of civilians on government troops.

Last month's attack, which damaged two wards of the 1,000-bed hospital, was blamed by the LTTE on government troops at the Jaffna Fort. The Government denied the allegations, and on May 8 decided to temporarily close the building.

Last week Jaffna officials urged the government not co close the hospital and to ensure the safety of patients and staff by other means.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said he would be meeting with Jaffna representatives Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the *The Island* daily quoted an intelligence officials as saying that a banned extreme-left group was planning to kidnap Mr. Athulathmudali and two other leading ministers to counter a government crackdown.

Besides Mr. Athulathmudali, the officials targeted by the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front) are State Minister Anandatissa de Alwis and Education and Employment Minister Ranil Wickremasinghe, the paper said.

President Junius Jayewardene warned last week that the Pro-Sinhalese JVP was preparing a violent campaign and planning to kill leading members of the government and the opposition. The JVP was banned in mid-1983 for its alleged involvement in anti-Tamil riots in which at least 400 persons died.

Bomb Explodes in Hill Country, Another Defused

BK120835 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0639 GMT 12 May 87

["OANA/pool item"]

[Text] Colombo, May 12 (LANKA PUWATH) — A bomb exploded last night at the Seevali Mavatha junction along the Kumbiyangoda-Matale road, in the hill country partly damaging a culvert, police told LANKA PUWATH.

Police said that immediately after the explosion unknown persons have stoned the house of a police officer who's residence was in close proximity to the scene of the explosion.

The police officer's house was slightly damaged.

Meanwhile, last Sunday the crew of [words indistinct] bus detected a bomb inside the bus at Katunayake: the areas where the Colombo International Airport is situated, and immediately called the airforce in.

The bomb was defused later.

Minister Criticizes Indian Support To Tamils

BK111129 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] The minister of lands and Mahaweli development, Gamini Dissanayake, has said that the major constraint for a political solution to the country's ethnic conflict was the encouragement given to Tamil separatists by political forces in Tamil Nadu. Mr Dissanayake, who is visiting India in his additional capacity of regional president of the Asian Cricket conference, was quoted as telling reporters that support by some Indian leaders for Tamil separatists was blocking a political settlement to Sri Lanka's

ethnic problem. According to the *Press Trust of India*, the minister added that support by certain political forces in India for Tamil separatists would amount to interference in the internal affairs of Sri Lanka.

Mr Dissanayake, who arrived in Madras on route (?to) New Delhi, severely criticized the chief minister of the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, M. G. Ramachandran, for saying his government would send relief to Sri Lanka Tamils in Jaffna. He noted that Mr Ramachandran's decision to send 40 million rupees of relief was a foolish announcement for a chief minister to make. Mr Dissanayake, who was expected in New Delhi today for his declared mission to promote sports, said he would not blame New Delhi for the support given to Tamil separatists by political forces in Tamil Nadu. He however added that New Delhi had a certain responsibility not to allow this land to be used as a base for terrorism.

Reports, Communiques Detail Recent Fighting

Opposition Kills IRGC Commanders

LD111252 Kuwait KUNA in English 1204 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Paris, May 11 (KUNA) — Three commanders of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards were killed in clashes with fighters of the Mojahedin-e Khalq opposition group, it was reported here Monday. A statement by the Mojahedin-e Khalq, issued here, said the clash took place in a southern suburb of Tehran last May 2nd when a unit of the Mojahedin opened fire on a group of Revolutionary Guards.

The statement named the three leaders as commander of the Sharifabad police base Hasan Tajik, his deputy and commander of the Varamin police point Asghar Darabi. [sentence as received]

It noted the general commander of the police, Mollah Serajedin Musavi personally directed the revolutionary guards in this countering. The statement admitted that two Mojahedin combatants were killed in the fighting.

Communique No 2833

LD111559 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — Coastal artillery fire of the Iranian combatants forced an Iraqi gunboat to flee for cover, suffering some damage, when it appeared in Khawr 'Abdallah waterway early today, according to Joint Staff Communique No. 2833 released here Monday.

The communique said that heavy Iranian artillery fire destroyed parts of Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts killing several Ba'thist soldiers. Iranian patrols also took a considerable amount of weaponry bringing them to the bases.

Movements of Iraqi motorized columns were halted in Sayyid Sadiq and Panjwin operational theaters by Muslim forces who also prevented an Iraqi warplane from violating the air space of Marivan, Kurdistan Province.

During the exchange of artillery fire along western borders, Iranian combatants set afire several enemy gun emplacements and vehicles. Iraqi mine fields discovered by the Muslim forces were also set ablaze.

Exchange of mortar and artillery fire continue in Sharhani and Zobeydat operational regions raging more heavily around daybreak Monday. Several Iraqi watch posts were destroyed in these regions.

In Nahr-e Anbar, Bajaliyeh and Pich-Angizeh Iraqi tanks suffered some casualties, with Muslim combatants checking relocation activity of an enemy artillery unit in Chazabeh.

Artillery fire of Iranian gendarmerie forces on Iraqi positions and strongholds in parts of western and southern fronts destroyed several gun emplacements and two jeeps carrying 106 mm guns and killed a number of enemy troops.

Iraqis Chemically Bomb Villages

LD111923 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 11, IRNA — Ten innocent people were martyred and scores of others wounded when Iraqi war planes bombed two other [as received] Iraqi villages, suburbs of 'Barian' district in northeastern Iraq over the past week.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi forces backed by three copters, some tanks and personnel carriers attempted to advance towards three Iraqi Kurdish-populated villages, but were forced to withdraw by Muslim civilians and peshmergas of Iraq's Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP).

The Baghdad Government chemically bombed over 30 Iraqi villages on April 16, martyring and injuring hundreds of defenseless civilians.

Kurds Inflict Iraqi Casualties

LD111914 Tehran IRNA in English 1740 GMT 11 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — Iraqi forces suffered heavy casualties in an aborted attempt to capture 'Zivani' village, a suburb of town of Batoufeh [spelling as received] in northeast Iraq, forcing them to withdraw by forces under the command of Ramadhan Headquarters and Iraqi Kurdish Peshmergas over the past few days.

Forces of the Ramadhan Headquarters shelled an Iraqi troop concentration site in Zakhu region, killing a group of enemy forces including an Iraqi battalion commander identified as Abbas Janid [spelling as received]. Two Iraqi vehicles were also destroyed in the shelling.

Meanwhile, some 24 Iraqi soldiers joined the Kurdish Peshmergas over the past few days, said Ramadhan Headquarters. They surrendered themselves to the Peshmergas along with their weapons.

Murphy Visit Intended To Regain 'Lost Prestige'

LD111456 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1200 GMT 11 May 87

[From the "Press Review"]

[Excerpts] Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state has arrived in the UAE from Oman during his series of visits to the regional states. Murphy is trying to regain the United States' lost prestige in the regional Arab countries and to reassure them of Washington's enduring commitment. An editorial article in today's *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* entitled "Nobody Admires Superpower Shows" discusses the visit. We invite you to listen.

Jomhuri-ye Eslami writes: This is the first visit by a U.S. official to the region following the disclosure of the McFarlane affair and the exposure of the desperate U.S. policies toward the Islamic Revolution. Washington has arranged the tour because it is trying to portray the situation as normal. Murphy is

entrusted with assuring the regional shaykhs that the United States is still able to protect them and that there has not been any change in Washington's policies. [passage omitted] This is the toughest duty ever placed on the shoulders of a special envoy from Washington. Murphy has been ordered to defend something which he is certain does not exist. He spoke of the will of the United States, repeating exactly the same issues that the regional shaykhs wished to hear. Everyone realizes that his perspective differs greatly from the obvious facts. [passage omitted]

Is there anyone in the wide world, and particularly in this important part of the world, who might still expect miracles from the perplexed U.S. policitians? [passage omitted] However, one must not ignore recent events in certain capitals. Washington is trying in an underhanded way to compensate for its failures by bringing the USSR into the Persian Gulf. Although Moscow has welcomed this tendency on the part of Washigton, the truth is that when the United States is not able to do something or when it lacks the courage, it tries to get the Russians to act and to end the whole affair in the name of Moscow. Wittingly or unwittingly, the Russians are falling into the trap set for them by the United States in this sensitive part of the globe. [passage omitted]

The Persian Gulf is an unknown region for the leader of the Kremlin. Moscow is well aware that those who used to know the Persian Gulf and who were actively present in the area for many years and seemingly able to control everything, are now facing a strange form of confusion. [passage omitted] Although the West and the East have always been the opposite poles of influence and at logger-heads about receiving a greater share of global interests, at this juncture they seem to be in mutual agreement. However, what they do not know is that in the Persian Gulf it is not an agreement between the arrogant powers that decides the fate of events; it is the nations which are awaiting an opportune time to deal a resounding blow to the oppressors. [passage omitted] This can be boiled down to one sentence: Nobody admires superpower shows!

Soviet Measures Amount to 'Declaration of War'
LD111540 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1200 GMT 11 May 87

[From the "Press Review"]

[Excerpts] *Ettela'at* carries an article entitled: "Tit for Tat", as follows:

The attack on a Soviet freighter in the Persian Gulf waters brings the crisis in this strategic part of the world to a new stage. [passage omitted]

Following the attack on the Soviet vessel in the Persian Gulf waters, imperialist loudspeakers and transmitters gave extensive coverage to the incident and, having accused the Islamic Republic of involvement in the attack on the Soviet vessel, are trying to take advantage of the incident to achieve their own sinister objectives.

In its morning program yesterday, the BBC radio referred to the current week as a week of trial for the Soviet Union. It then reported that three ships had sailed from Cairo to the Persian Gulf. All in all, a cursory glance at the propaganda approach adopted by the West and the region's reactionaries to the incident reveals the main political lines of imperialism toward the region's developments as well as that of Iranian-Soviet relations. The main objective of this type of approach by the West to the incident is, actually, aimed at placing Iran and the Soviet Union at loggerheads.

The incident involving the "Ivan Koroteyev" is the pretext for a plot which was hatched months ago by the West. Regrettably, having obtained some concessions, the Russians were caught n this trap. Since the inception of the revolution, the Islamic Republic has always placed the issue of good relations and respect for other side's sovereignty at the center of its foreign policy in the region. Needless to say, our northern neighbor enjoys particular importance in this connection.

Since the start of the imposed war, despite the interminable aid supplied to Iraq by the Kremlin, the Islamic Republic of Iran has always exercised self-restraint, trying to eliminate the elements of sabotage between the two countries by entering into constructive talks. Iran has a correct understanding of the situation in the region, particularly in view of its strategic importance and conditions. Because of this, the Islamic Republic of Iran has never wished to subject exemplary and goodneighborly relations with other countries, especially with its northern neighbor, to international rivalries; because adherence to principles has always been the focal point and direction of Iran's foreign policy.

Support for the struggles launched by the Muslim and heroic Afghan nation's struggles has aided their resistance, thus trapping the Russians in the vortex of the Afghan movement. It should be said that not only should no responsibility for this fall upon Iran, rather, it must be pointed out that this is simply the outcome of the blundering policies pursued by the Kremlin leadership, which, without any consideration for another nation's wishes and will, has sent troops to that homeland. As a result, because of the valiant resistance put up by that nation, the Soviet Union is currently caught in a whirlpool which had previously trapped the United States in Vietnam. [passage omitted]

It is regrettable that the Russians have in recent months become trapped in the plots hatched by the West, because they wished to safeguard their short-term and, sometimes, inaccessible interests —some of which are no more than a mirage. As a result, the Russians have adopted a hostile policy with regard to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Their open and explicit support for Iraq, the visit to Iraq of the Soviet deputy foreign minister, his inspection of Basrah and, finally, the USSR's involvement in the U.S. plan of leasing ships to Kuwait are some aspects of this policy.

Recently, the Russians have adopted the most hostile stands toward the Islamic Republic of Iran. What is interesting is that they are aware of Iran's clear and open policy concerning security of the Persian Gulf. The measures taken by the Soviet Union are some sort of manifest collaboration with the United States and

the region's reactionaries and, to put it more succintly, some sort of declaration of war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

As it has repeatedly stated, Iran follows a policy of security for all or for no one in the Persian Gulf. Under no circumstances, not even in its confrantation with any country, has Iran even for a moment, failed to pursue this policy; nor will it take even one step backward. Having said that, the incident which occurred in the Persian Guif, apart from the question of which country attacked the Russian vessel, is in fact the most natural outcome of the policies purused by the Russians in the Persian Gulf because of the tension and lack of security there.

It is not at all far-fetched to expect the next Soviet vessel to be attacked by the Americans or by a state in the southern part of the Persian Gulf and then to cast blame on Iran, in order to further worsen relations between Iran and the USSR. While the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to have good relations with the neighboring countries on the basis of healthy and good-neighborly relations and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, it cannot continue to remain silent when faced with their support for the Iraqi regime. Consequently, when it notices that its interests are threatened, the Islamic Republic is forced, despite its inner wishes, to make use of the tit for tat policy. When it comes to implementing this policy, all countries are given a blanket treatment by Iran, for no country's flag will be given preferential treatment.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is not prepared to become a scapegoat between the West and the East, nor is it prepared to pay the price for the Arab reationaries' supererogatory and sycophanticservice to the Soviet Union. The Muslim Iranian nation has already chosen its path and, in implementing its decisions, will under no circumstances fall for the climate created and power displayed by the mock powers.

We shall not submit to illogical remarks from anyone. Having said that, the Soviet authorities had better use prudence toguide their policies; it would be in their interest to use language befitting the standard and reputation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as to respect neighborly requirements and a 2,500 km common border.

'Temporary' Accord Reached With Syria on Lebanon

JN091626 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 9 May 87
pp 1, 23

[Text] Paris — *Al-Qabas* has learned from informed Arab sources that an agreement was recently reached between Syria and Iran on Lebanon and on their relations in the Lebanese arena. These sources said that this accord is transitional and temporary, but it will freeze any possible Iranian-Syrian confrontation in Lebanon for a period of time. It has been necessitated by the Iranian leadership's current circumstances. The sources explained that this agreement, which is made up of several points, is not a written document signed by the two sides but a verbal understanding reached following a series of contacts and meetings between senior Iranian and Syrian officials. However, this should not belittle the agreement, which is in fact a framework that will govern the behavior of both Syria and Iran in Lebanon until further notice.

These Arab sources revealed to *Al-Qabas* the details of the agreement which is composed of the following main points:

1. Syria pledges not to storm the Southern Suburb of Beirut which is the main stronghold of Hizballah and pro- Iranian elements. It also pledges not to carry out any military operations against strongholds of the pro-Iranian elements whether in Al-Biqa' or southern Lebanon. In return, the Syrian forces would deploy around Beirut's Southern Suburb and the centers of the pro-Iranian elements and prevent open armed deployment of these elements outside certain defined areas.

2. Syria will refrain from storming the centers in which Western, French, U.S., British, and other hostages are being held to free them by force. However, this should not prevent the continuation of the dialogue between the Syrians and Iranians, or between the Syrians and the Lebanese elements which have influence on those holding the hostages, in order to reach an understanding through which they can be released, although this is not currently under consideration.

3. Syria pledges not to place any obstalces, whether by its forces or its allies, in the path of Hizballah activities in southern Lebanon against Israel and its agents in the area, especially against the South Lebanese Army headed by Antoine Lahd and supported by the Jewish state.

4. In return, Iran pledges to halt any practical, effective moves to announce the establishment of an Islamic republic in Lebanon or part of it. It also pledges to halt any hostile operations or activities against the Syrian forces or role in Lebanon.

5. Iran recognizes that Syria plays a principal role in Lebanon which should not be bypassed or undermined at least during the current stage. Damascus and Tehran should, in fact, cooperate to escalate the military activities against Israel and its agents in southern Lebanon.

6. The two sides agree to give the multifaceted Syrian- Iranian relationship priority over Tehran's plans and schemes in Lebanon. On this basis, any trouble or crises between Syria and Hizballah, or between Syria and the other pro-iranian elements in Lebanon, should not adversely and directly affect overall Iranian-Syrian relations.

This last point is important because Hizballah recently sought to convince senior Iranian officials of the need to link Iran's relations with Syria to the Syrian officials' agreement to give Hizballah a greater role in Lebanese politics and involve this party in the various talks and contacts under way to find a new formula for the future of Lebanon. Within the framework of this understanding on Lebanon, a new oil agreement was signed between Syria and Iran that is valid for only 1 year and not 10 years as reported. This agreement stipulates that Iran will supply Syria with 3 million tons of oil per year, including 1 million tons free of charge as an Iranian contribution to the Syrian war effort against Israel, according to Tehran.

According to the informed Arab sources, this Iranian-Syrian

agreement is a transitional and temporary agreement for the following reasons:

1. The Syrian officials clearly realize that the current Iranian regime has not completely abandoned its plans and schemes in Lebanon, foremost among which is the establishment of an Islamic republic in that country. The Iranian regime agreed to freeze these schemes and plans and avoid direct confrontation between their proponents and the Syrian forces after it failed to achieve any progress or partial victory in its recent battles with Iraq. Moreover, the Syrian officials also clearly realize that the Iranian regime would violate or ignore this agreement the moment it feels capable, for reasons related to the situation in Lebanon or the war with Iraq, of confronting the Syrians in Lebanon.

2. Although the Iranian leadership agreed to respect the Syrian role in Lebanon and pledged not to undermine it for the time being at least, this will not prevent the pro-Iranian elements in Lebanon from working underground to try and bolster their influence and positions while awaiting more opportune moments to openly pursue their principal schemes in Lebanon. The Syrian officials clearly and fully realize this and are currently cooperating with their Lebanese allies to weaken the influence of the pro-Iranian elements by various means.

3. Syria retreated from its plans to storm Beirut's southern suburb or exert actual pressure to secure the release of Western hostages because it does not want a complete estrangement with Iran. Syria wants to maintain its relations with Iran although there are differences of opinion and conflicting interests on a number of issues. Moreover, Syria does not see any point in a military confrontation with the pro-Iranian elements in Lebanon for the time being since no new Lebanese-Syrian agreement has been reached on the future Lebanese situation or future relations between Syria and Lebanon. On this basis, this Syrian-Iranian agreement is a temporary and transitional agreement awaiting developments here or there which could alter the current equation and the balance of power.

Syrian Foreign Minister Arrives in Tehran

LD120700 Tehran IRNA in English 0655 GMT 12 May 87

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — The Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', arrived in Tehran Tuesday morning for a brief visit and was welcomed at the Mehrabad International Airport by his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

On the objective of his visit, Al-Shar told IRNA that he was carrying a written message from President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria for President 'Ali Khamene'i. He also added that while in Tehran he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Velayati and other Iranian officials.

Commentaries Criticize Turkish Policies

Evacuation Tied to U.S. Forces

NC111014 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 5 May 87

[Text] Officials in Tunceli, Turkey, have said a number of settlements in that region will be evacuated, and their inhabitants resettled in as yet undetermined areas. The Turkish officials insist the decision is aimed at protecting the villagers from terrorist attacks.

According to a statement by Tunceli's mayor which is published in Turkish newspapers today, 150,000 people will be affected by the plan that stipulates the evacuation of settlements comprising 8,000 square km of land. The Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will implement the decision during the current year. Meanwhile, a number of political circles and news agencies believe that in addition to its political overtones, the decision is intended to provide military installations and air fields in the region to the special commando units known as the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force for training purposes. A portion of the U.S. military aid earmarked to Turkey is allocated for the maintenance of these installations.

'Oppression' of Muslims Noted

NC120757 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 6 May 87

[Text] The police have arrested a large number of Muslims in Turkey during the past 3 months on grounds that they were waging an Islamic struggle and conducting activities against secularism in the country. The Muslims were later severely punished. Amnesty International raised this matter in one of its latest reports. It said that a large number of Muslims had been arrested by the police in Turkey during the past 3 months for possessing cassette recordings by religious scholars. It added that the Istanbul State Security Court sentenced them to 6 and 1/2 years in prison. It should be noted that Amnesty International has been focusing its attention during the past few years on efforts to suppress Muslims throughout the world.

Amnesty International's report added that Turkey is seeking to suppress the struggle waged by the Muslims by imposing heavy prison terms. In a reference to the imprisoned Muslims, the report said that Muslim writers and journalists and members of Islamic movements have been given long jail sentences during the past few years. Pointing to the oppression of journalists, Amnesty International's report stated that Mehmet Coban, who is a writer and a journalist, has been imprisoned for 6 years with hard labor for his Islamic activities and for supporting the establishment of an Islamic order. We would like to recall that in a statement he made at the beginning of 1987, President Evren of Turkey warned against involvement in Islamic movements and demonstrations by Muslims. He also warned that Islamic activities would be severely crushed in Turkey.